

# FORMATION THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY TEST & DATA ANALYSIS

TEST LOCATION VA Medical Center

Warehouse G-101 Martinsburg, WV

TEST DATE March 10-12, 2014

ANALYSIS FOR Negley's Well Drilling, Inc.

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TEST PERFORMED BY Negley's Well Drilling, Inc.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A formation thermal conductivity test was performed at Warehouse G-101 at the VA Medical Center in Martinsburg, West Virginia. The vertical bore was completed on February 20, 2014 by Negley's Well Drilling, Inc. Geothermal Resource Technologies' (GRTI) test unit was attached to the vertical bore on the morning of March 10, 2014.

This report provides an overview of the test procedures and analysis process, along with plots of the loop temperature and input heat rate data. The collected data was analyzed using the "line source" method and the following average formation thermal conductivity was determined.

# Formation Thermal Conductivity = 1.64 Btu/hr-ft-°F

Due to the necessity of a thermal diffusivity value in the design calculation process, an estimate of the average thermal diffusivity was made for the encountered formation.

# Formation Thermal Diffusivity $\approx 1.09 \text{ ft}^2/\text{day}$

The undisturbed formation temperature for the tested bore was established from the initial loop temperature data collected at startup.

### **Undisturbed Formation Temperature** ≈ 56.7-58.0°F

The formation thermal properties determined by this test do not directly translate into a loop length requirement (i.e. feet of bore per ton). These parameters, along with many others, are inputs to commercially available loop-field design software to determine the required loop length. Additional questions concerning the use of these results are discussed in the frequently asked question (FAQ) section at <a href="https://www.grti.com">www.grti.com</a>.

#### TEST PROCEDURES

The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) has published recommended procedures for performing formation thermal conductivity tests in the ASHRAE HVAC Applications Handbook, Geothermal Energy Chapter. The International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA) also lists test procedures in their Design and Installation Standards. GRTI's test procedures meet or exceed those recommended by ASHRAE and IGSHPA, with the specific procedures described below:

**Grouting Procedure for Test Loops** – To ensure against bridging and voids, it is recommended that the bore annulus is uniformly grouted from the bottom to the top via tremie pipe.

**Time Between Loop Installation and Testing** – A minimum delay of five days between loop installation and test startup is recommended for bores that are air drilled, and a minimum waiting period of two days for mud rotary drilling.

**Undisturbed Formation Temperature Measurement** – The undisturbed formation temperature should be determined by recording the loop temperature as the water returns from the u-bend at test startup.

**Required Test Duration** – A minimum test duration of 36 hours is recommended, with a preference toward 48 hours.

**Data Acquisition Frequency -** Test data is recorded at five minute intervals.

Equipment Calibration/Accuracy – Transducers and datalogger are calibrated per manufacturer recommendations. Manufacturer stated accuracy of power transducers is less than  $\pm 2\%$ . Temperature sensor accuracy is periodically checked via ice water bath.

**Power Quality** – The standard deviation of the power should be less than or equal to 1.5% of the average power, with maximum power variation of less than or equal to 10% of the average power.

**Input Heat Rate** – The heat flux rate should be 51 Btu/hr (15 W) to 85 Btu/hr (25 W) per foot of installed bore depth to best simulate the expected peak loads on the u-bend.

**Insulation** – GRTI's equipment has 1 inch of foam insulation on the FTC unit and 1/2 inch of insulation on the hose kit connection. An additional 2 inches of insulation is provided for both the FTC unit and loop connections by insulating blankets.

**Retesting in the Event of Failure** – In the event that a test fails prematurely, a retest may not be performed until the bore temperature is within 0.5°F of the original undisturbed formation temperature or until a period of 14 days has elapsed.

### DATA ANALYSIS

Geothermal Resource Technologies, Inc. (GRTI) uses the "line source" method of data analysis to determine the thermal conductivity of the formation. The line source method assumes an infinitely thin line source of heat in a continuous medium. A plot of the late-time temperature rise of the line source temperature versus the natural log of elapsed time will follow a linear trend. The linear slope is inversely proportional to the thermal conductivity of the medium. If a u-bend grouted in a borehole is used to inject heat into the ground at a constant rate in order to determine the average formation thermal conductivity, the test must be run long enough to allow the finite dimensions of the u-bend pipes and the grout to become insignificant. Experience has shown that approximately ten hours is required to allow the error of early test times and the effects of finite borehole dimensions to become insignificant.

In order to analyze real data from a formation thermal conductivity test, the average temperature of the water entering and exiting the u-bend heat exchanger is plotted versus the natural log of elapsed testing time. Using the Method of Least Squares, linear equation coefficients to produce a line that fits the data are calculated. This procedure is normally repeated for various time intervals to ensure that variations in the power or other effects are not producing inaccurate results.

The calculated results are based on test bore information submitted by the driller/testing agency. GRTI is not responsible for inaccuracies in the results due to erroneous bore information. All data analysis is performed by personnel that have an engineering degree from an accredited university with a background in heat transfer and experience with line source theory. The test results apply specifically to the tested bore. Additional bores at the site may have significantly different results depending upon variations in geology and hydrology.

Through the analysis process, the collected raw data is converted to spreadsheet format (Microsoft Excel®) for final analysis. If desired, please contact GRTI and a copy of the data will be made available in either a hard copy or electronic format.

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## TEST BORE DETAILS

# (AS PROVIDED BY NEGLEY'S WELL DRILLING, INC.)

Site Name	. VA Medical Center Warehouse G-101
Location	Martinsburg, WV
Driller	Negley's Well Drilling, Inc.
Installed Date	. February 20, 2014
Borehole Diameter	. 10 inches from 0-85 ft
	6 inches from 85-310 ft
Casing	Permanent 6 inch steel casing w/drive shoe installed from 0-85 ft
U-Bend Size	1 1/4 inch HDPE
U-Bend Depth Below Grade	. 234 ft
Grout Type	. Wyo-Ben Therm-Ex
Grout Solids	. 67% (300 lb sand per 50 lb bentonite)
Note: 73% additional grout was required due	

### DRILL LOG

FORMATION DESCRIPTION	DEPTH (FT)	
Clay	0'-19'	
Limestone	19'-44'	
Fracture	44'-44.5'	
Limestone	44.5'-60'	
Very soft limestone	60'-61'	
Blue/gray limestone	61'-67'	
Soft brown fractured limestone	67'-69'	
Light gray limestone	69'-78'	
Fracture	78'-78.5'	
Light gray limestone	78.5'-112'	
Brown fractured limestone	112'-112.5'	
Light gray limestone	112.5'-116'	
Hard dark blue limestone	116'-146'	
Soft light gray limestone	146'-148'	
Hard dark blue limestone	148'-163'	
Void with white clay	163'-169'	
Soft light gray limestone, mixed brown layers	169'-171'	
Light gray limestone	171'-177'	
Fracture	177'-179'	
Medium blue/gray limestone	179'-208'	
Soft light gray limestone	208'-217.5'	
Fractured/voided/white clay	217.5'-221'	
Soft light gray limestone	221'-233'	
Fractured/voided/white clay (temporary circulation loss)	233'-236'	
Soft tan limestone	236'-240'	
Light blue limestone	240'-248'	
Light blue limestone	248'-258'	
Fracture-very broken	258'-264'	
Light gray limestone	264'-309'	
Fracture Fracture	309'-310'	

Note: Bore produced 5 gpm water at 19 ft; 15-20 gpm (petro odor) from 44-44.5 ft; 40 gpm at 73 ft; 80-100 gpm at 123 ft; 100+ gpm at 173 ft; total yield of 150-200+ gpm.

# THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY TEST DATA

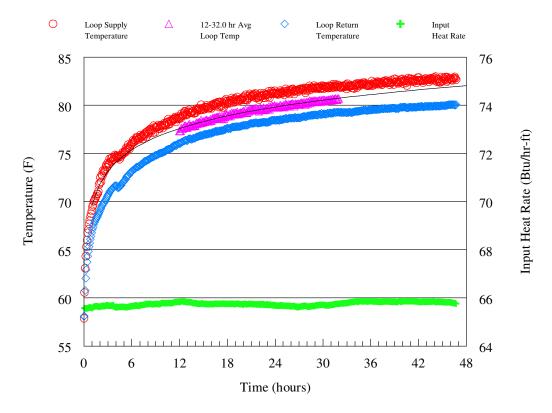


FIG. 1: TEMPERATURE & HEAT RATE DATA VS TIME

Figure 1 above shows the loop temperature and heat input rate data versus the elapsed time of the test. The temperature of the fluid supplied to and returning from the U-bend are plotted on the left axis, while the amount of heat supplied to the fluid is plotted on the right axis on a per foot of bore basis. In the test statistics below, calculations on the power data were performed over the analysis time period listed in the Line Source Data Analysis section.

#### SUMMARY TEST STATISTICS

Test Date	March 10-12, 2014
Undisturbed Formation Temperature	. Approx. 56.7-58.0°F
Duration	. 46.7 hr
Average Voltage	247.5 V
Average Heat Input Rate	15,380 Btu/hr (4,506 W)
Avg Heat Input Rate per Foot of Bore	65.7 Btu/hr-ft (19.3 W/ft)
Calculated Circulator Flow Rate	11.0 gpm
Standard Deviation of Power	0.08%
Maximum Variation in Power	0.21%

# LINE SOURCE DATA ANALYSIS

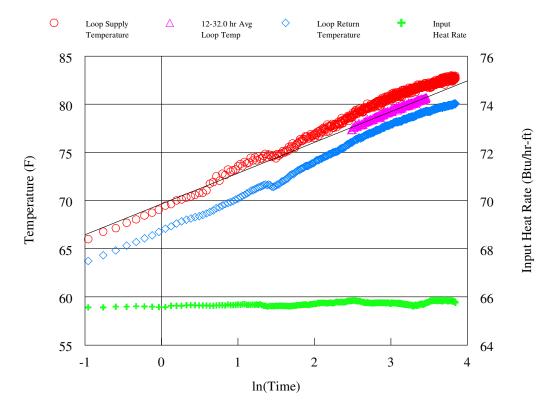


FIG. 2: TEMPERATURE & HEAT RATE VS NATURAL LOG OF TIME

The loop temperature and input heat rate data versus the natural log of elapsed time are shown above in Figure 2. The temperature versus time data was analyzed using the line source method (see page 3) in conformity with ASHRAE and IGSHPA guidelines. A linear curve fit was applied to the average of the supply and return loop temperature data between 12 and 32.0 hr. The slope of the curve fit was found to be 3.20. The resulting thermal conductivity was found to be **1.64 Btu/hr-ft-°F**.

### THERMAL DIFFUSIVITY

The reported drilling log for this test borehole indicated that the formation consisted of clay and limestone. A heat capacity value for limestone was calculated from specific heat and density values listed by Kavanaugh and Rafferty (Ground-Source Heat Pumps - Design of Geothermal Systems for Commercial and Institutional Buildings, ASHRAE, 1997). A weighted average of heat capacity values based on the indicated formation was used to determine an average heat capacity of 36.0 Btu/ft³-oF for the formation. A diffusivity value was then found using the calculated formation thermal conductivity and the estimated heat capacity. The thermal diffusivity for this formation was estimated to be **1.09 ft²/day**.



# CERTIFICATE OF CALIBRATION

GRTI maintains calibration of the datalogger, current transducer and voltage transducer on a biannual schedule per the manufacturers recommendations. The components are calibrated by the manufacturer using recognized national or international measurement standards such as those maintained by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

FTC Unit	225
_	
DA Unit	37

PRIMARY EQUIPMENT				
COMPONENT	LAST CALIBRATION DATE	CALIBRATION DUE DATE		
Datalogger	8/2/2013	8/2/2015		
Current Transducer	8/5/2013	8/5/2015		
Voltage Transducer	8/5/2013	8/5/2015		

GRTI periodically verifies the combined temperature sensor/datalogger accuracy via a water bath. Temperature readings are simultaneously taken with a digital thermometer that has been calibrated using instruments traceable to NIST.

DATE	2/24/2014	8/12/2013	
THERMOCOUPLE 1 (°F)	31.9 31.9 31.9	31.8 31.8 31.8	
THERMOCOUPLE 2 (°F)	31.8 31.8 31.8	31.7 31.7 31.7	
THERMOCOUPLE 3 (°F)	31.8 31.8 31.8	31.8 31.8 31.8	
THERMOCOUPLE 4 (°F)	32.0 32.0 32.0	32.0 32.0 32.0	
DIGITAL THERMOMETER (°F)	32.0 32.0 32.0	32.0 32.0 32.0	